DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Padmanabha Pillai, the question of the transfer of the site of the Public Works Department Telephone Exchange will be decided soon.

Your other representations are either being considered or will be considered.

73. Needs of the Colachel town.

MR. R. KUMARA PILLAI (*Municipal Council, Colachel*) first represented about the necessity for the establishment of a Munsiff's Court at Colachel. The desirability of shifting one of the Munsiff's Courts at Tuckalai to Colachel had been repeatedly represented at several past sessions of the Assembly. The *pakuthies* of Eraniel, Talakkulam, Kadiyapattanam, Manavalakkurichi, Colachel, Midalam, Kizhmidalam, Nattalam, Killiyur, Keezhkulam and Kappiyara, which were included within the jurisdiction of the Munsiff's Court at Padmanabhapuram, were nearer to Colachel than to Padmanabhapuram, and if one of the Munsiff's Courts was shifted to Colachel, it would be a great boon to the people inhabiting the above-said *pakuthies*.

Colachel was the only Municipal town in the State which had no Magistrate's Court. Originally, there was a Magistrate's Court at Colachel, but it was shifted to Eraniel, to the great disadvantage of the people of Colachel. A Magistrate's Court or at least a Munsiff-Magistrate's Court should be continued at Colachel.

It would appear that the Government had issued orders sanctioning the conversion of the Police Station at Colachel into an Outpost. If this was true, it was quite unjustifiable in view of the number of cases filed in the Police Station and of the seriousness of the crimes committed in the locality. The orders in the matter should be cancelled and the Police Station should be continued with an additional Head Constable and 10 additional Constables.

The urgent necessity of converting the local dispensary into a hospital had been repeatedly urged on the attention of the Government, but without any result. The number of patients that sought medical relief in the dispersary was larger than in most of the hospitals of the State. The dispensary should therefore be converted into a hospital or if that was not possible immediately, the supply of medicine to the dispensary should be increased and better facilities should be afforded for the treatment of in-patients.

The arrack and toddy shops should be removed from within the town limits.

The necessity for the construction of a pier at Colachel port had been repeatedly urged at several previous sessions of the Assembly. The Government should bestow their early attention on the subject.

The member next represented about the necessity for improving the Chemmankulam tank. To a representation made at the 24th session of the Assembly, urging for a separate tank in the town, the Government replied that the Chemmankulam tank might be utilised after carrying out the necessary improvements. The finances of the

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local Municipal Council would not allow the work being attended to from municipal funds. The tank should therefore be improved at Government cost.

The opening of a road from Colachel to Tengapattanam, along the sea-coast would be useful to fifty thousand people inhabiting twenty villages on the sea-coast. It would also greatly facilitate the development of trade and agriculture of the taluk. The road would not cost much and the money invested on it could be recouped by levying tolls.

Steps should be taken for the immediate provision of a compound wall and a urinal to the local girls' school. Arrangements should also be made for the opening of class IV in the girls' school and also a Tamil IV class in the local V. M. School for boys.

The authorities of the Neyyur Mission Hospital had commenced the construction of a building near the Colachel town to be utilised as a leper asylum. The Colachel Municipal Council had submitted to the Government a resolution protesting against the location of the leper asylum at the place. Early orders should be issued prohibiting the location of the asylum at the site in question.

It was regrettable that the Government had disallowed the grant of Rs. 500 originally sanctioned to the Colachel Municipality. The grant should be revived.

Lastly, the member represented about the desirability of re-aligning the proposed railway line from Trivandrum to Nagercoil, so as to pass through the eastern boundary of the town instead of crossing it, as already settled. The line should be so aligned as to enable an important railway station being located on the eastern side of the town.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kumara Pillai, the establishment of a Munsiff's Court, as the Dewan said last year, will be taken up when the Report of the Law's Delays Commissioner is considered.

There is a Magistrate's Court at Eraniel, and the District Magistrate considers that there is no need, at present, for a separate Magistrate's Court at Colachel.

There is also a Police Station there, and the experiment of converting the Charging Station at Colachel into an Outpost may be tried for a year or two.

The estimate and plan for a new building for the local hospital are ready, and the work will be taken up as soon as possible.

As regards the restoration of the Chemmankulam, it is for the Municipality to take up the work.

The suggestion to open a road connecting Colachel with Tengapattanam is part of the proposed Trivandrum-Cape road. That will have to wait until funds are available.

In regard to the provision of a compound wall for the local girls' school, the matter has been taken up by the department and it is under consideration.

I have promised to receive this week a deputation about the leper asylum.

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You want a grant for the Colachel Municipality. That does not seem to be necessary, because that Municipality had a closing balance of about Rs. 2,000 in the year 1106.

The Trivandrum-Nagercoil railway line as finally surveyed will not pass through Colachel. It passes through Tuckalai and Eraniel and goes to Nagercoil.

The Assembly adjourned at 4-58 P. M. to meet again at 11-30 A. M. the next day.

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